**DISTANCE SCOUTING PROGRAMME 24**

**(28 AUGUST 2020)**

**“THE N\*S\*A – ALL’S WELL THAT ENDS WELL”**

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| **You have until 19h00 on Friday 4 September 2020 to complete this programme. Follow the instructions carefully and you will be marked “present” for the programme, earn points for your patrol and hopefully compete some advancement and prepare for upcoming programmes and camps. More importantly, HAVE FUN!!!** |

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| **Equipment required for programme:**   * A cellphone with internet access and WhatsApp access to your patrol WhatsApp Group. * Your scout uniform. * An area with sand or soil where you can make tracks. * A phone or camera with the ability to take a video / photos. * Your personal journal. |

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| **The PL should, as always, designate who is doing what and, if nobody is doing an item (such as posting a training video) do this item so that the patrol can complete the programme. In this programme the PL must in particular make arrangements for the game item, which is to be done as a patrol.** |

Last week you foiled an attack on the Covid-19 Conference in Durban and managed to capture one of the fleeing terrorists, who was badly wounded. Thanks to your prompt action and first aid skills you managed to keep him alive and he has provided invaluable intelligence as to the probable location of the rest of the terrorist cell. If you can track them down you will have eliminated the entire network, making the world a much safer place!

**INSPECTION:**

The time for stealth is over, the terrorists are on the run and disguises are no longer needed. In light of this and in preparation for the imminent reopening of scouting and troop meetings, gather your scout uniform together and post a picture of your full uniform (including scout socks, belt and properly polished shoes) on your patrol WhatsApp group.

If you have lost items of have grown during lockdown, chat to your parents or TS about how to replace missing items so you can put on your full uniform when scouting at your troop resumes.

**GAME:**

The information provided indicates that the group has probably fled to the masion of Wolfgang Von Klinkenhoven in Mpumalanga. You recall finding out a little about him in Programme 21. Von Klinkenhoven is an ultra-rich industrialist who has long been rumoured to have links to terrorist cells.

Your patrol climb onto the N\*S\*A jet and head out to Mpumalanga from Durban. You will land at a small airstrip about 20km from Von Klinkenhoven’s mansion.

You have some time to kill though and decide to pass the time with a game. After much discussion you decide to play a version of the Alphabet Game. The way it works is simple.

The first player will post the name of an activity that you would like your troop to do once normal scouting restarts, but it has to begin with an “A”. The next player will post an activity beginning with “B” and so on through the alphabet. When you have run through the entire alphabet (good luck with “X” by the way!) as a patrol pick your top three activities and post them on your WhatsApp Group.

To get full points get all of your patrol to take part, but if someone can’t join in get as many people to play as possible to get most of the points for this activity.

**INTO THE LION’S DEN:**

You arrive in Mpumalanga and speed off to the Von Klinkenhoven mansion, which is nestled in a secluded kloof far away from prying eyes.



When you arrive at the mansion a scene of devastaton meets your eyes.

Von Klinkenhoven and his gang have been pillaging the surrounding land for resources to fuel their terrorist activities. All the trees for miles around have been cut down for wood, leaving barren slopes. Gaping wounds on the surrounding hills show where excavators have dug into the hillside for minerals, leaving no plant cover at all. Rubbish, dirty oil and other detritus surrounds a small factory which belches smoke into the atmosphere.

The mansion and the factory appear to be abandoned, but the damage to the surroundings will take years, if not decades to remedy.

**Do ONE of the following:**

**Option 1:**

**This counts towards Item 2i of the Service Theme for the Traveller Badge. Your copy of “My Scout Journey” has information that can help with this item, why not look it up?**

**Find out what “The Outdoor Code” is and post a picture on your patrol WhatsApp Group. Post a few sentences on why the Outdoor Code is important and why scouts have an Outdoor Code.**

**Option 2:**

**One of your patrol members asks why you are concerned about the gaping holes in the sides of the hills from Von Klinkenhoven’s mining activities. Find out what the dangers of soil erosion by wind and water are and how soil erosion can be combatted. Do one of the following on your patrol WhatsApp Group:**

**This counts towards item 4 of the Scoutcraft Conservation Badge. For the full requirements visit** <https://scoutwiki.scouts.org.za/index.php?title=Conservation_Scoutcraft_Badge>

1. **Post a short video on your findings and demonstrate how to combat soil erosion in your video; OR**
2. **Post a voice note on your findings and photos of you demonstrating how to combat soil erosion; OR**
3. **Write up your findings and post this together with photos of you demonstrating how to combat soil erosion.**

**RELEASE THE HOUNDS:**

The terrorists have clearly scattered when they heard your patrol approaching. You are going to have to track them down. The local SAPS dog unit can use their dogs to track down some of the terrorists, but they only have two dogs, so you are going to have to track down the rest! Are you as good as a hound in tracking down people?

**This counts towards item 5 of the Scoutcraft Observation Badge. For the full badge requirements visit** <https://scoutwiki.scouts.org.za/index.php?title=Observation_Scoutcraft_Badge>

**Put together a short presentation on the characteristics of human footprints, both with shoes on and without shoes on. You should cover how to tell if someone is walking, running, jumping, limping, carrying something heavy or moving backwards.**

 **Your presentation can be a short video, a voice note with photos or a written presentation with photos. Post your presentation on your patrol WhatsApp Group.**

**VICTORY:**

As your patrol members race off to track the rest of the gang, the SAPS dog handlers announce that they have captured Von Klinkenhoven. This is a major blow to global terrorism, well done!

Normal scouting is set to resume in most troops in September. Distance Scouting has been a challenge for many, but most troops have shown that “A Scout Smiles and Whistles under All Difficulties” and have made the most of it.

Thank you for joining me for the Distance Scouting Journey. I hope to see many of you in the not-too-distant future face-to-face now that normal scouting is resuming, and wish you well and a good journey on the scouting path that lies ahead.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

* Congratulations to Jason Bailie on completing your Weatherman Badge. Congratulations also to:
  + Kudu patrol on a successful patrol service project clearing black wattles;
  + Sable patrol on you patrol meeting at the local driving range;
  + Springbok patrol on your recent patrol day hike;
  + Wildebeest patrol on your online patrol meeting.
* A survey form has been sent out concerning the possible reopening of scouting. Please try and complete it by Sunday evening.
* Applications for the National Senior Scout Adventure are now open. If you are going to be 15 or older please message your PL that you want to take part and register at <https://cederbergadventure.co.za/>. **DO NOT PAY A DEPOSIT YET!!!**
* A reminder that SCOUTS South Africa has made branded facemasks available at a cost of R40,00 per mask, excluding delivery. Visit the online scout shop at <https://shop.scouts.org.za/> to place your order.
* The Northrand Scout District is running a competition for all NORTHRAND Scouts. The Northrand Scout that earns the most interest and/or scoutcraft badges during the lockdown will win a prize worth roughly R150,00. Can you be the best in the district and scoop the prize? This competition will close soon due to the imminent reopening of scouting.

SCOUTS South Africa has developed a Covid-19 awareness badge. Are you up to the challenge? Visit <https://www.scouts.org.za/2020/05/26/covid-19-awareness-badge/> for information on the requirements.

* Contact scouting is allowed to a limited degree. Outdoor activities in patrol-sized groups are now allowed, check with your TS to see if you can plan an activity for your patrol and have some scouting fun face-to-face.

**TROOP DISMISSED!**